## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02069 080554Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W

-----092970 080557Z /15

P 071505Z DEC 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9835
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, IS, JO, XF

SUBJECT: ARABIC PRESS REPORTS U.S. HAS ABANDONED GENEVA

- 1. WEST BANK ARABIC PRESS DEC. 7 REPORTS U.S. HAS ABANDONED GENEVA IN FAVOR OF CAIRO CONFERENCE. RED BANNERS READ: "VANCE: A SOLUTION IS POSSIBLE WITHOUT GENEVA" ("AL QUDS") AND "WASHINGTON TOPPLES THE GENEVA CONFERENCE\*" ("ASH'AB").
- 2. STORIES FROM WIRE SERVICES DATELINED WASHINGTON REPORT PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS OF SECSTATE DEC. 6
  THAT "ME SETTLEMENT CAN OCCUR WITHOUT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE" AND THAT U.S. STRONGLY SUPPORTS CAIRO CONFERENCE WHICH WILL ADDRESS SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF PEACE, BORDERS AND PALESTINIANS. WASHINGTON POLITICAL OBSERVERS REPORTEDLY INTERPRET VANCE REMARKS AS A RADICAL CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY.

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3. EDITORIAL RESPONSE IS IMMEDIATE. IN A THOUGHTFUL EFFORT AL QUDS (MODERATTE AND PRO-JORDANIAN) REMARKS: "WE ARE NOT CONCERNED WITH THE MANNER OF THE DISCUSSION OR THE PLACE, AS MUCH AS WE ARE CONCERNED TO REACH A JUST AND GENUINE PEACE WHICH WILL RESTORE OUR RIGHTS AND PROPERTIES. THE DEGREE OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF THIS NEW (AMERICAN) POLICY DEPENDS ON THE EXTENT

OF PRESSURE TO BE EXERTED ON ISRAEL..."

4. LESS GENEROUSLY, ASH'AB (RADICAL AND INDEPENDENT)
PREDICTS THE U.S. WILL ENGINEER RHODES-STYLE BI-LATERAL
AGREEMENTS CULMINATING WITH "SOME (PALESTINIANS)
...READY TO SIGN BLANK CHECKS IN THE HOPE OF GETTING
SOME CRUMBS OFF THE TABLE." "ASH'AB"CONCLUDES:
"WE REJECT ALL DARK PLOTS WHICH AIM AT
CIRCUMVENTING OUR RIGHTS..."

5. COMMENT: WE NOTE FROM THE OFFICIAL TEXT THAT SECRETARY WHILE STRESSING U.S. SUPPORT FOR CAIRO AT PRESENT REITERATED STATED INTENTION OF ALL PARTIES TO MOVE TOWARDS GENEVA. WE SHALL SUPPLY COPIES OF TEXT TO LOCAL ARAB JOURNALISTS TO BALANCE SOMEWHAT PREVAILING IMPRESSION THAT U.S. HAS IN EFFECT GIVEN UP ON OR DOWNGRADED GENEVA. WE NOTE WEST BANK ASSESSMENT SIMILAR TO THAT OF ISRAELI PRESS DECEMBER 7 (TEL AVIV 10188). NEWLIN

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## Message Attributes

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